**Farm School Questions**

Below are some pre- and post-survey questions Amy-Lynn and Paige developed to provide to all Farm School participants across the state. The idea is that if all Farm Schools used the same questions the answers would provide more consistent evaluation information that could be more efficiently quantified.

Amy-Lynn suggested that each week an evaluation survey could be used to gauge the value of that week’s information, areas of strengths and where improvement was needed. These questions would be unique to that particular farm school.

(Note: the first question uses the term “sustainable agriculture”. In past farm school evaluations, the term “best practices” was used. A-L and I preferred the term “sustainable”, however we felt it should be defined for the group)

**The questions below would be used both pre- and post farm school, to measure change:**

1. **Do you have a written business plan?**

**1)Yes**

**2)No**

1. **Do you have a written marketing plan?**

**1)Yes**

**2)No**

1. **Have you developed a (pick all that apply)**

**1) balance sheet?**

**2) income statement?**

**3) cash flow?**

1. **What are you current farm receipts**

**1) 0**

**2) 1,000-5,000**

**3) 5001-10,000**

**4) 10,0001-15,000**

**5) 15,001-20,000**

1. **How would you rate your knowledge of economically sustainable agriculture production practices? (On a scale from 1-5 with 1 being no understanding and 5 being an expert…)**
2. **How confident are you in your ability to find reliable resources relevant to a farming enterprise (ie, what is a Farm Services Number, what are good cool season cover crops), etc. 1-5**
3. **How well do you understand the start up and operational costs involved in the farm enterprise you are considering? 1-5**
4. **How knowledgeable are you about the marketing opportunities for your farm enterprise? 1-5**
5. **How would you characterize your vision for your farm business: 1) I’m not sure what I want to do, I’m exploring options 2) I have a/some specific idea I want to explore 3) I am definite about my plans for my farm business.**
6. **How confident are you in writing a business plan? 1) Scared to death – I have no idea how to go about it 2) I’m pretty business savvy so I think I can do it once I have direction 3) I’ve written business plans before, got this covered.**
7. **Do you understand the differences between various legal business designations your farm could utilize and how that may impact your farm enterprise in the long term? 1-5**
8. **Do you currently own or have access to land for your farm business? 1) I currently have no land 2) I own or have access to 1-5 acres 3) I own or have access to 5-20 acres 4) I own or have access to 21-50 5) I own or have access to over 50 acres.**
9. **What is your past experience with Cooperative Extension? 1) I’ve never heard of Extension before, this is my first experience 2) Heard of Extension but never before used you as a resources 3) I’ve used Extension before on occasion 4) I am very familiar with Extension as a resource and have used you frequently in the past.**
10. **How would you rate your ability to develop a cash flow and income statement for your farm business? 1-5**

**These questions would be for *post-*farm school:**

1. **How far are you on writing your farm business plan? 1) I’ve decided not to farm so I won’t be doing this 2) I have an outline of a plan 3) My plan is ¾ completed 4) my plan is complete**
2. **Did participation in farm school help you refine your farm business plan? Please describe how it did or did not benefit you.**
3. **Do you believe participation in farm school helped prevent mistakes that may have cost you money? If yes please describe.**
4. **Did participation in farm school help you refine production and/or marketing practices that will increase profits? If yes, please describe.**
5. **Would you be willing to volunteer as a resource for future farm schools as a speaker or field trip destination?**